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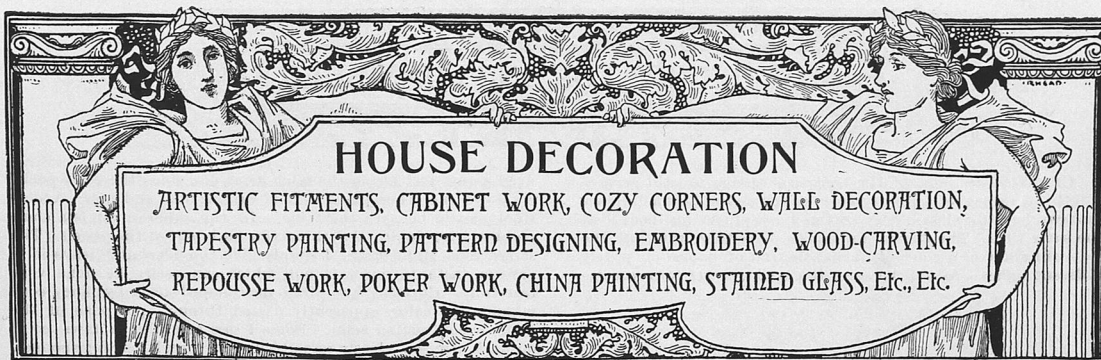
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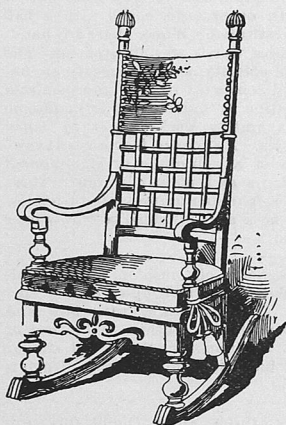
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## HOUSE DECORATION

ARTISTIC FITMENTS, CABINET WORK, COZY CORNERS, WALL DECORATION,  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, PATTERN DESIGNING, EMBROIDERY, WOOD-CARVING,  
REPOUSSE WORK, POKER WORK, CHINA PAINTING, STAINED GLASS, Etc., Etc.

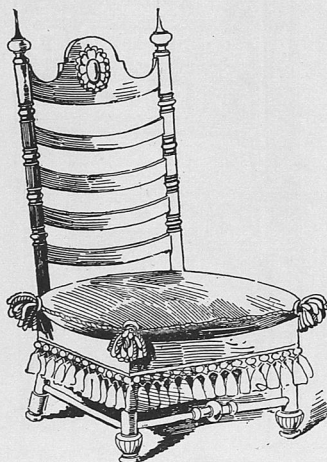


NEW DESIGN IN ROCKING CHAIR.

HERE is one of the new designs in rocking chairs, which shows how interlaced lathes are being employed in chair work with excellent effect. There is a very large business done in rocking chairs.

LADIES' chairs are gradually becoming more interesting in appearance. A chair in the stately and substantial Jacobean style is one that is peculiarly appropriate for a lady's use, and the sketch shown herewith is well designed, for while simple in shape is quite imposing in appearance. The style of cushion and the fringe are very artistic.

THE screen is an indispensable article of furniture, either for the parlor or library, on account of its comfort giving qualities and the privacy it affords. Variety of outline and material are usually the limits of novel effects obtained in these popular articles, and we seldom find a screen doing duty as a bookcase, such as the one depicted in our illustration.



A LADY'S CHAIR.

With the gradual lessening of the size of our apartments, owing to the rapid increase of the population in cities, more and more attention is given to the construction of articles of furniture having a two-fold purpose, and the sketch given shows how a screen may be transformed into a very useful piece of furniture. The center piece assumes the proportions of a bookcase, and

the side wings are provided with fold down shelves, so that the screen may be folded up when necessary. The idea is capable of considerable extension, and can be worked out in a manner analogous with any given style of art.

A HALL in the Colonial style has a paper with a creamy white ground, with a design in citron yellow consisting of slender scrolls and arabesques, flowing from vases from which depend



COMBINATION SCREEN AND BOOKCASE.

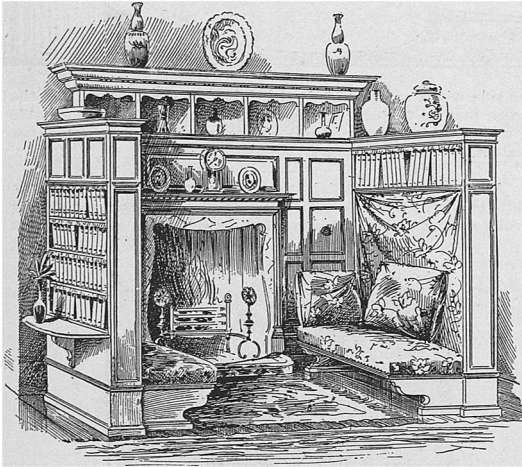
festoons of jewels. Conventional flower forms, springing from slenderly curved stems, and rosettes set at regular intervals, complete the design. The frieze has a design including the Greek lamp, from which proceed sprays of laurel, and the famaliar vase with its garlands of flowers and fluttering ribbons in shades of citron, green and yellow, touched with glints of gold, divided from the wall proper by an ivory and gold moulding. The ceiling is in creamy white with intersecting circles simulating Greek moulding. The wood-work is in ivory, and at the openings are portieres of Beauvais and Aubusson tapestry, lined with velours de Flanders, harmonizing with the interiors from which they are seen. The carpet is in soft shades of the prevailing tones of the rooms.

PAPER sachets of sandal wood and moss rose, put together amongst stationery, gives it a most delicate and delightful perfume. The sachets should be put close together. Violet is also very fragrant, but expensive.

FOR proof that the desire to imitate nature, and to weave such imitations into decorative work, is innate, and not the result of culture, we have but to go to the records of pre-historic and savage art, which show wonderful evidences of decorative feeling. The sense of form and color seen in the work of our own native Indians is a matter of general knowledge and comment. Their coloring is usually intense, never weak in effect or inharmonious. The Mexican Indians are especially strong in form and color, and have been engaged to make a display of their work at the World's Fair, in order to show the more scholarly nations that they are not behind them in this respect.

# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

CARRYING the idea of the bookcase screen to still greater lengths, a sketch of a library cosy corner shows how a fireplace seat can be utilized as a cosy seat and receptacle for books at the same time. The shelves for books on either wing of the seat will allow of a convenient distribution of books on widely different topics. As will be seen, the book shelves form a com-



A LIBRARY COSY CORNER.

fortable englenook in a manner which has every convenience to commend it, and the cost of making same is but very little.

A DEN has its general coloring in terra cotta of a rich, warm tone and sea green. There is a curtain of pale green behind the door with a deep border of plush, hanging from a gilt rod, which projected beyond the door, so that the curtain could be drawn a little beyond the closed door by the inmate, and so prevent a draft. The couch is upholstered in terra cotta plush, with the pillow covered with pale green pongee silk, in which was worked a monogram in silk. The table had a cover consisting of a small square of terra cotta serge worked in pale green silk. The lamp had a pale green shade to match the silk cushion. There was a looking-glass in a broad frame of wood, covered with pale green brocade, and hanging pin-cushions covered with the same brocade decorated the walls.

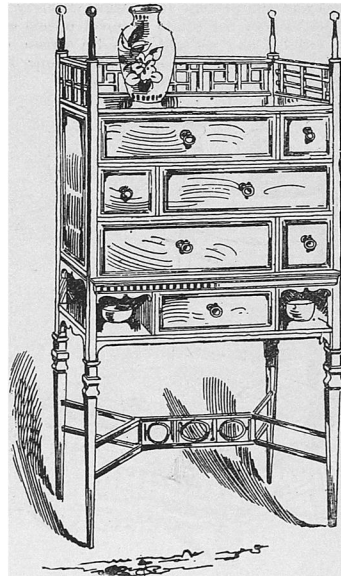
It is often difficult in small rooms to find accommodation for evening and best dresses. An ingenious contrivance was shown me recently, and I am sure many women will be glad to hear of it. It consisted of a wooden box on castors, fitting underneath the bed, long enough to take evening dresses folded almost at full length. It was not quite as wide as the bed, and it could be drawn out very easily by means of a handle at each side. Where space is limited, an easel in one corner, prettily draped, with a mirror put in the cross-bar instead of a picture, and a three-cornered table placed just below to hold all the toilet necessities, form quite an artistic and ornamental spot. The cross-bar must be broad and tolerably firm, and the mirror of good size. The point of the table fits into the corner. A pretty cloth corresponding with the drapery of the easel should be thrown over it. If desired, a second shelf could be added to the table, to hold extra things. The pin-cushion could hang at one side. This arrangement can be carried out with good effect in a boudoir. Any carpenter could make the corner table.

A NOVELTY is a combined toilet and writing screen, which consists of a tall four-fold screen with two flap tables made to fit into the angles, and fixed to the panels by means of hooks. In one angle—I mean the corner between two panels—there is a complete and cosy little toilet table, with the mirror either

fixed across just above the table or at one side; there are pockets down the other panel to hold various odds and ends. A foot-stool goes in beneath the table. In the other nook is a complete writing table. Anything can be hung on the panels. The screen must stand firm. I simply give the idea and leave it to artistic taste to carry it out, which can easily be done very tastefully. Curtains are often now looped back by fancy cord matching in color, apparently passed through pompons of the same or contrasting color. Some I saw recently, in fawn color on dark crimson, closely resembled small circular strung sponges, at equal distances. These pompons are about the size of a Tangerine orange. Drapery for mantel shelves has gone out of fashion, and a handsome length of brocade, edged with a ball fringe laid on the slab, is substituted. Where there are handsome oak or marble mantel-pieces, this is an improvement. The large cushions retain their popularity, and frequently an unused bed pillow is covered, and converted into a handsome sofa cushion. At a recent exhibition of handiwork, a handsome piece of crazy patchwork, elaborately worked over in fancy stitches, formed the cover of one. A favorite fashion is throwing a large square or length of any brocade or embroidered material over couches and chairs and plain cushions. These squares are sometimes given as christening presents to babies. They are worked, edged with lace, and intended to throw over the child when asleep on a bed.

A pretty novelty is the magnolia pin cushion. The petals are of tinsel; half of the number are turned upwards and surround the center of the flower. This is of silk, with bow and cords for stamens, and this forms the pincushion; the rest of the petals turn down and act as supports. Somewhat similar is the magnolia watch pocket, but it has only one row of petals curving towards a velvet center.

THE sitting-room chiffonier exhibits an article of furniture that will be found extremely useful in the ordinary parlor. It is not only extremely useful by reason of its convenient arrangement of drawers, and the top of same is employed as a receptacle for

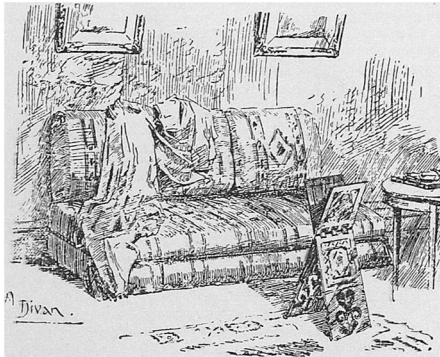


A SITTING-ROOM CHIFFONIER.

ornaments. The fret grille around the top, with the elongated corners, adds materially to its artistic appearance. The drawers are used for the accommodation of papers, magazines, cards, and cigars, and the thousand odds and ends that are required to be handy, and yet out of sight. The chiffonier is raised on legs some distance from the ground, which makes it very handy, and as a piece of furniture it will be found extremely convenient.

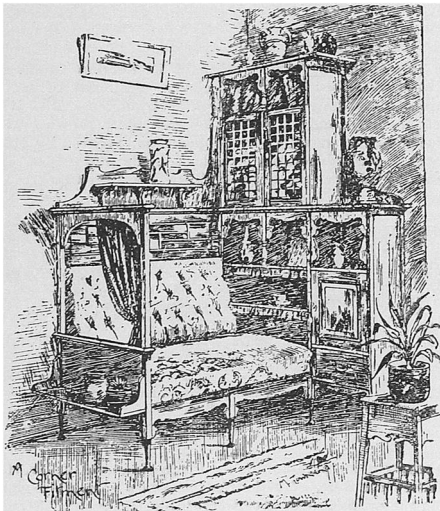
## THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

BEDROOM floors should be of plain painted wood, varnished. Nothing can be cleaner. Or better still, polished or oiled wood of the natural color, with parquetted borders. If this is impossible cover your floor with dark stained matting, which are as healthy as possible. Readily lifted and shaken rugs have all the comfort of carpets and none of their disadvantages. The prettiest illumination is by candle in the charming new candlesticks in tin and brass, which are as nice as Roman lamps.



A DIVAN.

THE accompanying sketch of a divan is an idea at once simple and luxurious, such as would add an air of luxury to any apartment, however bare and forbidding. The corner fitment is designed upon novel lines, the arrangement accompanying the sofa or divan, with a cabinet for bric a brac, and screen with shelf for holding tea-cups, etc. The divan lies cosily between the screen and the cabinet, and would form a most agreeable resting place.

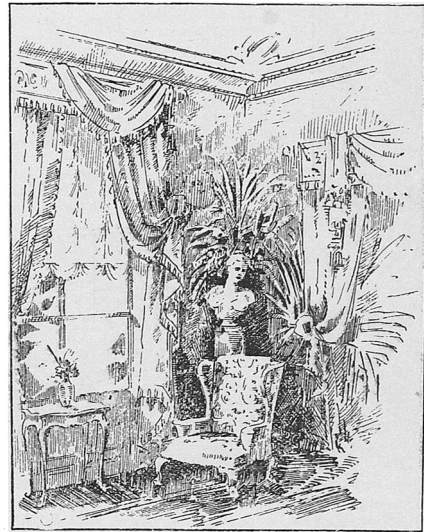


DECORATING A CORNER.

SOME very pretty rugs are made in Smyrna work, which is done on large meshed canvas with a strong crochet needle. The thick Smyrna wool is cut into lengths of four or five inches, then doubled; the loop is pushed down through one of the holes in the canvas, hooked up through another, and the ends slipped through the loop and drawn tight. It is very quickly and easily done. It would be fatiguing to copy the design of

a real rug, even though it were turned upside down, and it is better to use some simple conventional design. It will look very well if simply filled in in Persian tones of coloring, which suit any room. When finished the pile is clipped evenly, and if desired it can be sent to a shop to be clipped.

FRENCH polishing is not beyond the powers of amateurs; it is however, one requiring considerable time and patience and demanding practice at the start. First of all the surface of the wood should be well rubbed with fine glass paper, and the dust from this removed. A sort of cushion or pad is then made with flannel; this must be thoroughly wetted with the French polish, a clean piece of linen or muslin stretched over it, and a drop of linseed oil applied to the face. With this polish in circles with light but regular pressure; this process to be repeated at intervals until the requisite polish is obtained. Ordinary French polish will do for experiments, but it darkens the color of wood or satin; therefore colorless polish is essential for delicate work.



A CORNER FITMENT. BY CHARLOTTE ROBINSON.

THE decoration of the corner of a room may be treated in a great many different ways. The sketch supplied herewith will be found a very pleasing arrangement if carried into practice. The curtains of both the window and doorway are of serge or diagonal cloth of dull electric blue, with either salmon pink or straw colored lining. These colorings, of course, presuppose a similarity of coloring in the wall-paper of the room, which is matched thereby. There is an upholstered seat, and a pedestal, with palms in the background.

PARQUETRY has come to be regarded as an important adjunct to interior decoration. Although the patterns are strictly geometric in character, the varieties now produced are wonderful, and the large proportion of the varieties turned out by leading firms are beautiful, both in balance of parts and combination of tones. There is little intermixture in the styles brought out of what may be termed color, either through means of natural woods or stained timber, but, while such a combination as dark, intermediate, and light shades of oak presents a solidity of appearance highly conducive to the realization of what a floor ought to be, there might be a wide scope for combining distinctively ornamental features with utility by the use of colored woods.

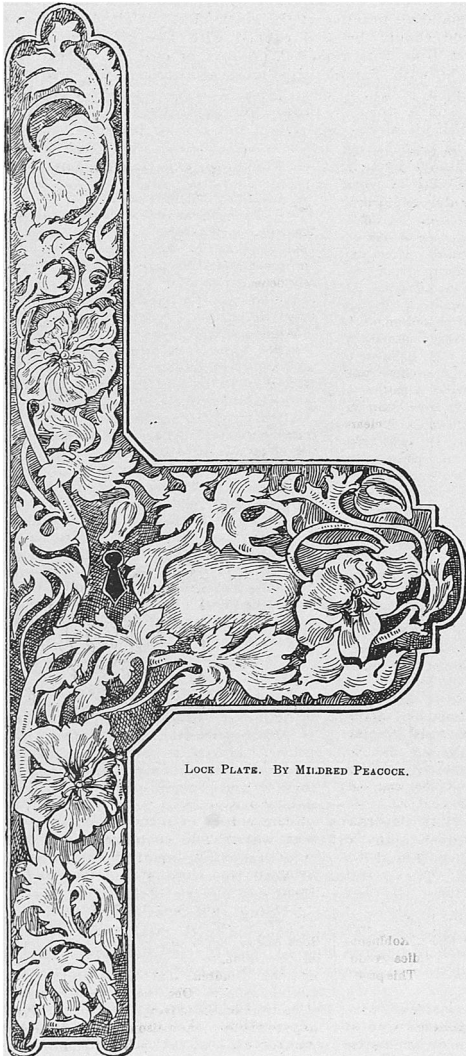
CLEVELAND people are best accommodated by the New York Central; six trains daily.



# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

THE chiffonier is the grand name bestowed upon the long-legged chest of drawers that has been kept in the storeroom for years. These ancient articles of furniture are now taken out and polished like mirrors, and what has been for fifty years a dull brown surface comes to view as a choice maple or an ink bronzed oak. The ancient brasses are well burnished. The round oaken tables and the oval and square light stands are all

THERE seems to be a disposition to return to painted walls for sleeping apartments—not the old fashioned treatment, but blended damask effects and a variety of pretty designs. The decorator has sufficient scope here, and may be as broad as he chooses. A large number of decorators are only putting friezes on parlor and music room walls, and there they must be an exact match in design and color to the wall hangings. The difficulty of securing exact width, design and color, unless where painted, for the upper rooms, has led to the abandonment of friezes.



LOCK PLATE. BY MILDRED PEACOCK.



CIRCULAR DISH. BY MAGGIE E. HARRISON.

At the Bazaar Exhibition, held in London in May last, there were exhibited some very clever specimens of art brass and copper work designed and executed by ladies. Miss Mildred Peacock designed and executed the lock plate shown herewith. The circular dish in repoussé copper was executed by Mary E. Harrison, and the decorative panel of birds and fruits, also in repoussé copper, was executed by Mary Waldron Clark.



DECORATIVE PANEL. BY MARY WALDRON CLARKE.

now recalled. The brass candlesticks and the trays with their snuffers are summoned to the grand renaissance of old style furnishings.

A novelty which may be suggested to those of our readers who wish to give a pretty present to a young lady, is the butterfly brooch. The charm of this trinket is that it requires no pinning or unpinning; the wings should be lightly pressed together, and when let go, the two sharp clips underneath the body will firmly grasp any dress material on which the butterfly is placed. Some of these butterflies are gold with rubies and diamonds set here and there; others are made entirely of gems.

FASHION is as paramount in furnishing and decorating as with ladies' costume, of which fact the new season's designs in grounded paperhangings give irrefutable testimony. Stripes in half satin and talc effects of plain colors and self tones—we have in plenty with which to satisfy the present craving for drawing rooms in "the French style." In best bedroom lines, and for morning rooms, etc., there is a surfeit of charming semi-natural floral designs, all very full and harmonious in color, although approaching too dangerously near imitations of nature to be satisfactory as designs for wall coverings. Imitation tapestry papers are also in strong demand, chiefly for dining rooms, for which they are very suitable, if selected with judgment and hung with skill.